

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 OIC-02 IO-10 ARA-06

FEA-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 /110 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

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PASS AGRICULTURE FOR BELL AND NOVOTNY

E.O. 11652: DECON 4/25/76

TAGS: EAGR, PFOR

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL PREPARATORY GROUP

FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM IWC:

QUOTE FROM A CONVERSATION WITH PIZZUTI OF THE EEC COMMISSION IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEXT MEETING OF THE IWC PREPARATORY GROUP, I UNDERSTAND THAT THE CURRENT COMMUNITY POSITION IS THAT EVEN IF A COMPROMISE WERE TO BE REACHED IN THE GATT AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 7TH MAY TO RESOLVE THE PROCEDURAL ISSUES OF THE MTN NEGOTIATIONS AND IT WAS THEN AGREED TO ESTABLISH A SUB-GROUP ON GRAINS - WHICH HE THOUGHT UNLIKELY AT THIS STAGE - THE COMMUNITY WOULD STILL WANT THIS SUB-GROUP TO MEET AT LEAST TWO OR THREE TIMES BEFORE IT COULD JOIN IN THE TECHNICAL WORK INVISAGED IN THE IWC PREPARATORY GROUP. IF THIS IS INDEED CORRECT, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THERE WOULD BE LITTLE PURPOSE IN CONVENING AT THE END OF MAY, AS

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ORIGINALLY PLANNED, A MEETING OF THE GROUP WHICH THE

COMMUNITY WOULD BE UNWILLING TO ATTEND.

QUOTE PERHAPS AN ALTERNATIVE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY GROUP MIGHT BE THE MIDDLE OF JUNE. EVEN THEN, IT IS NOT CERTAIN AT THIS STAGE WHETHER THE COMMUNITY WOULD PARTICIPATE. FURTHERMORE, I SUSPECT THERE WOULD BE LITTLE ENTHUSIASM FOR SUCH A MEETING ONLY A WEEK OR SO BEFORE THE COUNCIL SESSION SCHEDULED FOR THE END OF JUNE. THIS MIGHT MEAN THAT IT COULD IN FACT PROVE IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY GROUP BEFORE THE COUNCIL SESSION. HOWEVER, ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE FOR THE GROUP TO MEET IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SESSION TO TAKE STOCK OF THE SITUATION IN THE HOPE THAT IT COULD THEN AGREE ON A TIMETABLE FOR ITS FUTURE PROGRAMME OF WORK.

QUOTE THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE MAJOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE GROUP, WHOM I AM ALSO CONTACTING, TO DISCUSS THE CURRENT POSITION EITHER FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY AT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT THE END OF MAY. IN THE MEANTIME THE SECRETARIAT IS GOING AHEAD WITH ITS PREPARATORY WORK AND I HOPE THAT THE CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH YOU PROMISED AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE GROUP WILL SOON BE FORTHCOMING. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. REGARDS PAROTTE END QUOTE.

IN COVERING MEMO FROM PAROTTE HE SAID AUSTRALIA HAS SUBMITTED CONTRIBUTION MENTIONED TOWARDS THE END OF LAST PARA.

RICHARDSON

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